

10/538157

PATENT  
JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 JUN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: TOBIAS DASSLER - 2 (PCT)  
PCT NO.: PCT/EP2003/013728  
FILED: DECEMBER 4, 2003  
TITLE: METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF R- $\alpha$ -LIPOIC ACID BY  
FERMENTATION

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**MAIL STOP PCT**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this  
paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of  
claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.